

reference numerals 13A,B refer to "apertures 13A" and "shoulders 13B"; and reference numerals 14A,B refer to "rods A " and "rods B". No new matter has been added.

2. Amendments to the Figures

In response to these objections, Applicant has filed concurrently herewith a paper titled Proposed Drawing Changes. The proposed amendments to Figs. 3 and 4, showing reference numerals 6A, 13A,B and 14A,B, as required by the Official Action, are respectfully submitted for the Examiner's approval. No new matter has been added to the disclosure.

3. Amendments to the Claims

Claim 9 has been objected to because reference numerals "3" and "1" in line 14, and reference numeral "1A" of the Preliminary Amendment filed December 30, 1997 (and not with reference to line numbers of the originally filed specification, as indicated in the Official Action) should be in parenthesis. Claim 9 has been amended to add the required parenthesis.

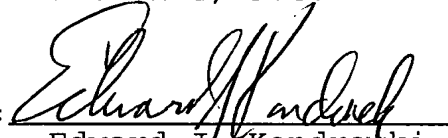
Having thus responded to each of the objections made in the Official Action, which are now believed to be overcome, withdrawal of the objections and expedited passage of the application to issue are requested. Should the Examiner nevertheless believe, however, that issues remain that could possibly be resolved in a telephonic or personal interview, the

Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at any time to arrange such an interview.

Respectfully submitted,

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